(c) what steps have been taken to recover the amount due and how much is the amount in respect of cases where advice was sought;

(d) whether his Ministry has any proposal to collect the amount due as arrears of land revenue; and

(e) if so, by when the process of collection would start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The advice of the Ministry of Law was sought on legality of the claims of the Government under Para 7(2) of the DPCO, 1979 on certain formulators.

(c) to (e) Necessary steps have been taken as per due process of law.

Review of drug price fixation order

1632. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the judgement of Supreme Court, the price fixation orders of drugs and formulations were to be reviewed and final decisions passed within a stipulated period;

(b) if so, what was the stipulated period;

(c) whether his Ministry has passed the orders within the stipulated period;

(d) if so, when;

(e) whether the amount of unintended benefit has been recovered from the Drug companies within the stipulated period;

(f) if so, what are the amounts recovered from each company along with the name of company and the drug or formulation concerned; and

(g) if not, whether his Ministry has fixed responsibility for this negligence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government was directed to give hearings to the concerned companies within two months of the date of judgement and dispose of the petitions within two weeks after the conclusion of hearing.

(c) and (d) The review petitions have been disposed of as per due process of law.

(e) to (g) As the companies have failed to fulfil the undertaking given to the Delhi High Court, the matter has been taken up before the Supreme Court for necessary directions to the concerned companies.

Consumer protection under DPCO, 1979

1633. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Para 7(2) of the Drugs Price Control Order, 1979 is meant for consumer protection and this para prevents the formulators from keeping the difference between the purchase price of bulk drug and the price on which formulation price has been fixed with themselves;

(b) if so, would such situations as in Para 7(2) not arise in future after the new measures are announced;

(c) if the answer is in the affirmative, why anti-consumer measures are being given effect to;

(d) whether his Ministry has included a provision like the one in Para 7(2) in the new measures;

(e) if so, what are the details of those measures;

(f) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(g) whether his Ministry has proposed measures to prevent the Drug companies from making un-intended benefits;